

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK COUNCIL MEETING
ASSEMBLY ROOM
SEPTEMBER 12, 2019
9:30 A.M.

Mayor Staton presided over the September 12, 2019, council meeting at 9:30 a.m. Those present in addition to Mayor Staton were Vice Mayor Weedman, Council Members Brown, Dockendorf, Gooch, Jamerson and Posey, Village Clerk Parker, and Village Administrator Christie.

MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Staton led the group in a moment of silent meditation. He then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL/CHANGES

Under *Consent Agenda* – added *term ending 1/31/2022* to the *Appointment of Will Garvey to Flat Rock Park Commission*. *Old Business - Item #7, Discussion of Park Commission membership* was added to the agenda. Council Member Gooch made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Vice Mayor Weedman. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Public Comments – Ms. Paige Willms expressed concerns of an article in the August Hendersonville Lightning regarding proposed NCDOT road projects in the distant future, turning existing roads within Henderson County and Flat Rock into bypasses, and the resulting traffic through Flat Rock.

Council Member Dockendorf responded to Ms. Willms comment, that he has attended meetings of all levels of NCDOT, and this issue has never been mentioned by any representatives of the county or NCDOT.

Mr. Ted Etherington stated he agreed with Ms. Willms on her concerns. He asked for the cost that the Village will have to pay for the new entrance including pillars and iron gates. Council Member Brown will address this issue in the park report.

Ms. Victoria Flanagan wanted to make council aware of Upchurch Marinas, Inc.'s response to fines imposed by the DEQ Division of Water Resources for violations at the Halfway Tree Mobile Home Park.

Consent Agenda

1. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:
 - July 29, 2019 – Agenda Workshop Minutes
 - August 8, 2019 – Council Meeting Minutes

- August 9, 2019 – Special Meeting Minutes
- Appointment of Will Garvey to Flat Rock Park Commission, term ending 1/31/2022.

Council Member Brown made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Gooch. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Special Reports

2. Administration – Village Administrator Christie

Administrator Christie reviewed the August 2019 zoning report dated September 5, 2019, and the Village Administrator report dated September 5, 2019 (see attached reports). As to the citizen survey that was included in the Village Record, 114 surveys have been received thus far.

3. Park Update – Council Member Brown

Council Member Brown gave an update on the following:

Tot Lot – The tot lot is near completion, all the elements have been installed except a swing that will be installed today. Construction of the knee wall around the tot lot is ongoing. Once the knee wall is complete, Trace and Company will complete the final grading and paving, then mulch will be installed. Plans are to have the tot lot open by the end of the month.

Bryan Playground grading and drainage – While we still have a few minor items to complete, the work to improve the playground is finished. Contractors installed a new drainage system, new stairs to the upper level, and fresh mulch. The playground reopened August 29, 2019.

N. Highland Lake Road Project – WGLA Engineering is reviewing the impacts of the N. Highland Lake Road project on the park, including drainage issues, possible trail relocations and the new entrance. We have reviewed their first draft and they are now adding additional detail to the document, including estimated costs. We will use this document and other information in our negotiations with NCDOT. We have asked WGLA to create a plan for the new entrance road to the park, and also to give two options for a future parking lot: (1) for a new parking lot, and (2) taking the existing parking lot and making it better by expanding and restriping. Option 2 will give 30 additional parking spaces, and 2 bus parking spaces at a much lower cost.

Council Member Brown addressed Mr. Etherington's earlier question by stating she does not now have the cost of the new entrance, but she is waiting for results of the study by the engineer. Nothing she has seen includes any pillars or any iron gates. The gate planned is an armed gate, similar to the one currently installed.

Mr. Etherington mentioned he had seen pillars and iron gates on the original park plan. Council Member Brown explained that plan is an overall conceptual plan for the development of the park, and it doesn't mean these items will happen or when the entrance will be installed, nor that the Council will pay for it. It may be a Park Foundation project.

Council Member Brown mentioned she and Administrator Christie will review the letter received from PARTF and answer the questions asked.

Council Member Dockendorf commented it is fantastic that the park hosted the cross country meet for all high schools located in Henderson County and other schools.

4. Foundation Update – Council Member Gooch

Council Member Gooch invited Dennis Flanagan to give the update. Mr. Flanagan reported Fall Frolic will be held in the park Saturday, October 12, 2019, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. He presented a sponsorship opportunity handout with three levels of sponsorship if council members wish to participate individually. The grand opening/ribbon cutting will be held for the tot lot in the Bryan Playground/Picnic Shelter area. Participants have joined with the Foundation for the event with activities, SmartStart, Boys & Girls Club of Hendersonville, Pardee Hospital, and the Henderson County Sheriff's Office. A pumpkin sale will also take place. Funds raised from the event are for sustainability of the park.

5. Transportation Update – Council Member Dockendorf

Council Member Dockendorf mentioned he has called NCDOT asking for a temporary traffic light at Rutledge Drive and Highway 225 until the detours are removed around October 17. NCDOT will ask the contractor because the detours are the contractor's responsibility, not NCDOT's. He is waiting for a response from NCDOT.

Council Member Dockendorf reported he is still waiting for Historic Flat Rock's revisions of the proposed bike pedestrian plan.

6. Tax Report – Vice Mayor Weedman

Vice Mayor Weedman reported that, as of September 11, 2019, the current fiscal year tax collections are at 19.14 percent with \$236,886.09 total collected (see attached report dated September 11, 2019).

Old Business

7. Discussion of Park Commission membership – Mayor Staton

Mayor Staton explained last year the Park Foundation amended its by-laws to provide for the vice president to be the Foundation's liaison to the Park Commission. That amendment does not make the liaison a member of the Park Commission. The liaison attends the meetings and participates in discussions, but does not have a vote. In order to make the liaison a member of the Park Commission, an amendment of the Park Commission's charter would be required.

Last year, Dennis Flanagan, then vice president of the Foundation, was appointed by council as a member of the Park Commission under the terms of the charter.

Until the charter can be reviewed, and an appropriate amendment be adopted, Mayor Staton suggested that Duncan Fraser, currently serving as vice president of the Foundation and its liaison to the Park Commission, be appointed as a member of the Commission.

Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to appoint Duncan Fraser as a member of the Park Commission for a term ending 1/31/2021. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gooch and carried a unanimous vote.

Mayor Staton asked for Council's authorization to prepare an amendment to the Park Commission charter to make the vice president of the Park Foundation automatically a member of the Park Commission for the period of time that a person is serving as the vice president of the Foundation. Council gave Mayor Staton authorization to prepare the amendment for consideration by the Council.

New Business – None

Other Business

8. Mayor – Council Reports

Council Member Brown reported Shred Day is scheduled for October 12, 2019, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. The collection of unwanted and outdated prescription drugs will again be included, as will the collection of canned goods for IAM.

Vice Mayor Weedman reported the Sheriff's Office has purchased a dog, and a K-9 officer will be training with the dog in Pennsylvania for six weeks.

Public Comments

Mr. Ted Etherington commented there is no need for a new parking lot at the park or for the Village to spend the money for a new parking lot.

Adjournment

With no further discussions, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Michelle Parker, CMC
Village Clerk

Robert V. Staton
Mayor